

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image formation method for forming an image on a recording medium, said method comprising the following steps:

a first step for applying fusible powder toner to a recording medium to form a toner image;

a second step for applying liquid ink containing a coloring material to said recording medium to form an ink image; and

a third step for performing thermal fixing of an image formed by said first and second steps.

2. An image formation method according to Claim 1, further comprising a step for semi-fixing a toner image between said first and second steps.

3. An image formation method according to Claim 2, wherein said fixing step is pressurizing fixing.

4. An image formation method according to any of the Claims 1 through 3, wherein said fusible powder toner contains a black coloring agent.

5. An image formation method according to any of the

Claims 1 through 4, wherein said liquid ink comprises at least inks of the three colors of yellow, magenta, and cyan.

6. An image formation method according to any of the Claims 1 through 4, wherein said liquid ink comprises at least inks of the four colors of yellow, magenta, cyan, and black.

7. An image formation method according to any of the Claims 1 through 6, wherein said liquid ink comprises at least a coloring material and a non-aqueous solvent.

8. An image formation method according to any of the Claims 1 through 7, wherein, in said second step, liquid ink is applied to said recording medium by ink-jet recording.

9. An image formation apparatus for forming an image on a recording medium, said apparatus comprising:

first means for applying fusible powder toner to a recording medium to form a toner image;

second means for applying liquid ink containing a coloring material to said recording medium to form an ink image; and

third means for performing thermal fixing of an image formed by said first and second means.

10. An image formation apparatus according to Claim 9, further composing means for semi-fixing a toner image between said first and second means.

11. An image formation apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein said fixing means performs pressurizing fixing.

12. An image formation apparatus according to any of the Claims 9 through 11, wherein said fusible powder toner contains a black coloring agent.

13. An image formation apparatus according to any of the Claims 9 through 12, wherein said liquid ink comprises at least inks of the three colors of yellow, magenta, and cyan.

14. An image formation apparatus according to any of the Claims 9 through 12, wherein said liquid ink comprises at least inks of the four colors of yellow, magenta, cyan, and black.

15. An image formation apparatus according to any of the Claims 9 through 14, wherein said liquid ink comprises at least a coloring material and a non-aqueous solvent.

16. An image formation apparatus according to any of the Claims 9 through 15, wherein, said second means applies liquid ink to said recording medium by ink-jet recording.